IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for mirroring data comprising:

partitioning a memory of a second storage server into a first portion and a second portion, the first portion corresponding to a first storage server;

receiving at the second storage server a data access request from ~~a client coupled to a~~ the first storage sever;

~~transmitting the access request to a second storage server; and~~

writing the data access request to the first portion of the memory;

when the first portion of the memory is full, writing the first portion of the memory ~~writing the access request~~ to a data container corresponding to the first storage server on the second storage server.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[2]]1, further comprising ~~the second storage server~~

receiving a synchronization request at the second storage server from the first storage server[[,]]; and

updating an image of a volume maintained by the first storage server on a second nonvolatile mass storage device coupled to the second storage server using the data access request.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

sending an acknowledgement from the second storage server to the first storage server in response to receiving the data access request~~; and~~ to cause the first storage server to send a response to a client after the data access request has been stored on the first storage server and stored in the data container, wherein the client has previously sent the data access request to the first storage server.

~~sending a response from the first storage server to the client in response to receiving the acknowledgement and after the access request has been stored on the first storage server and stored in the data container.~~

5. (Canceled).

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[5]]1, further comprising:

writing the data access request to a second memory on the first storage server upon receiving the data access request; and

updating the first storage server using the data access request in response to ~~the~~ a synchronization request.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~transmitting~~ the data access request is transmitted ~~comprises transmitting the access request~~ from the first storage server to the second storage server over a network.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[2]]1, further comprising:

assigning a sequence number to the data access request, wherein the sequence number designates a position of the data access request in a group of data access requests to ensure that the data access request is properly ordered within the data container.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the data container is a file.

10. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a destination storage server to mirror data stored by a source storage server;

a network interface on the destination storage server coupled to the source storage server, the network interface to receive a data access request from a client coupled to the source storage server~~; and~~, wherein the destination storage server is configured to write the data access request to a data container corresponding to the source storage server; and

a memory on the destination storage server to receive the access request, the memory partitioned into a first portion and a second portion, the first portion corresponding to the source storage server, wherein the data container is written to the first portion and,

when the first portion is full, the data container is written to a nonvolatile mass storage device coupled to the destination storage server.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~11~~ 10, wherein the network comprises a Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) network.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~13~~ 10, wherein the memory comprises a nonvolatile random access memory (NVRAM).

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the destination storage server modifies an image of a volume maintained by the source storage server on a second nonvolatile mass storage device coupled to the destination storage server according to the access request when the source storage server makes a synchronization request.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the data container is a file.

17. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

receiving a data access request at a destination filer from ~~a client coupled to~~ a source filer, wherein the data access request is written to a first memory coupled to the source filer;

~~writing the access request to a first memory coupled to the source filer;~~

~~transmitting the access request to a destination filer through a network;~~

sending an acknowledgement to the source filer in response to the destination filer receiving the data access request;

writing the data access request to a second memory coupled to the destination filer;

~~writing~~ transferring the data access request from the second memory to a file corresponding to the source filer on a volume coupled to the destination filer~~, wherein writing the access request to a file includes~~;

~~writing the access request to a second memory coupled to the destination filer,~~

~~transferring the access request to the volume,~~ and

removing the data access request from the second memory after transferring the data access request to the file~~; and~~

~~sending a response to the client to indicate receipt of the data access request~~.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising:

receiving a second data access request from ~~a second client coupled to~~ a second source filer, wherein the second data access request is written to a third memory coupled to the second source filer;

~~writing the second access request to a third memory coupled to the second source filer;~~

~~transmitting the second access request to the destination filer through the network;~~

sending a second acknowledgement to the second source filer in response to the destination filer receiving the second data access request;

writing the second data access request to the second memory;

~~writing~~ transferring the second data access request to a second file corresponding to the second source filer on the volume coupled to the destination filer[[,]]; ~~wherein writing the second access request to [[a]] the second file includes~~

~~writing the second access request to the second memory,~~

~~transferring the second access request to the volume,~~ and

removing the second data access request from the second memory after transferring the second access request to the volume~~; and~~

~~sending a second response to the second client to indicate receipt of the data access request~~.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising connecting the second source filer to the client in response to a system failure.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising:

applying the access request to an image of a volume maintained by the ~~first~~ source filer; and

allowing the client to access the image.